

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Appl. No. : 10/004,511
 Applicant : Shannon Morris
 Filed : October 22, 2001
 TC/A.U. : 3728
 Examiner : Luan Kim Bui
 Docket No. : OSSV-083441
 Customer No. : 30764

OFFICIAL

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(b)

Mail Stop AF
 Commissioner of Patents
 Post Office Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time of two (2) months for filing her reply brief on appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Sufficient cause exists for this request, and the extension requested is reasonable.

The ground for this request is that Applicant has pending a *Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181*, seeking to require the Examiner to reopen prosecution so that Applicant can address a changed claim interpretation that was divulged for the first time in the Examiner's *Answer*. The Examiner's *Answer* was mailed February 6, 2004, making Applicant's reply brief on appeal due April 6, 2004. Applicant diligently filed her *Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181* nearly six weeks ago, on February 18, 2004, but has yet to receive a decision on the *Petition*.

An extension of time is necessary because the two-month period for filing a reply brief expires in one week, and Applicant has no indication that the *Petition* will be acted upon in the remaining time, nor any guarantee that the *Petition* will be granted. Applicant has not begun preparing a reply brief in the expectation that her *Petition* will be granted. If the *Petition* is not granted, Applicant will require a new two month period to prepare her reply brief.

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